2. (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) The Member is referred to the Diwan s Proceedings mentioned in the answer to 1 (b) and (c) above.

The assignment of excluded area from the Forest.

212. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—(a) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a copy of the petition presented by P. S. Krishna Ayyar, the contractor referred to in question No. 396 of the last session of the Council, for the assignment of excluded area from the Forest;

(b) was any land assigned to him ;

(c) were offers of assignment made to neighbouring landowners, and if so, what was their reply?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—(a) A copy of the petition is laid on the table. (*Vide Appendix I.*)

(b) No.

(c) The land has not been redemarcated yet. After redemarcation, the plots required by the *pattadar* of the adjacent lands as margins for their cultivated lands will be sold in public auction and assigned in the names of the highest bidders according to the provisions of *the Land Revenue Manual.*

The assignment of Sirkar lands.

213. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) the names of persons who were granted assignments of Sirkar lands in the State of more than 10 acres, including *porambokes* unassigned areas, disafforested areas, etc., during the last 12 years, the total area assigned to each of them, the Survey number and village of the property, and the specific purpose, if any, for which the assignment was made, in each case and whether the specific purpose has been subsequently carried out by the respective assignees ;

(b) whether applications were invited by notification or otherwise for assignment in each case ; if so, who were all the applicants in each case, and what were the particular reasons, if any, for preferring the assignee in each case ;

(c) what was the amount realised in each case under (1) timber value or (2) land value or (3) building value ; inthe case of timber value, what was the quantity of timber on each area before assignment;

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(d) will the Government be pleased to lay on the table of the House a list of applications for assignment of areas more than 10 acres now pending final orders of the Diwan Peishkar or of the Government?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—(a), (b) and (c). The collection of statistics called for is a very laborious task, and the Government do not consider that any useful purpose will be served by it. If the Member wants any information in regard to any particular case of assignment, it will be arranged to be supplied to him on requisition being made to the Tahsildar of the Taluk concerned.

(d) The question, as it stands, cannot be answered consistently with the rules in force regarding the assignment of lands.

The constitution of the Government of Cochin.

214. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether the Diwan alone constitutes the Government of our State; and if not, who all constitute the Government of our State?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The answer to the former part of the question is in the negative. As regards the latter part, the Member is referred to the introductory note to the latest *Administration Report* (para 5) and to *the Cochin State Manual* (Chapter XIV, p. 357).

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I have referred to the introductory notes and *Administration Reports*. I do not find the word "Government" there. In the *Manual* also there is not the word "Government".

Mr. A. B. Salem.—I was told in all seriousness about that.

President.—The seriousness still continues.

Mr. N. Padmanabha Menon.—In *the Civil List*, the "Government" is in a way defined.

President.—The expression "Government" is not seen there.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—I want to understand, when petitions are addressed to Heads of Departments, whether they are considered to have been addressed to the Government; and in the same way, whether petitions submitted to His Highness are considered to be sent to the Government. I want to know, Sir, whether His Highness, the Diwan and the Heads of Departments are included in the term "Government".

President.—So far as administration is concerned, the Government is charged with the administration of the State, and

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